

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1. (Currently amended) A water-responsive homogeneous polymer blend composition comprising a biodegradable polymer grafted with a polar monomer, oligomer, or polymer or a combination thereof, said biodegradable polymer being selected from poly(hydroxy alkanates), poly(alkylene succinates), polycaprolactones or combinations thereof that are hydrolytically degradable, and a water-soluble polymer or a water-soluble polymer grafted with a polar monomer, oligomer, or polymer or a combination thereof.

2. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim 1, wherein said ~~biodegradable polymer~~ water-soluble polymer is selected from ~~poly(hydroxy alkanates), poly(alkylene succinates), polycaprolactones or combinations thereof that are hydrolytically degradable~~ polyethylene oxide, polyvinyl alcohol, sulfonated polyester, hydroxypropyl cellulose, polyacrylamide or polyacrylic acid.

3. (Withdrawn)

4. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, wherein said polar vinyl monomer is an ethylenically unsaturated monomer containing at least one polar functional group or said oligomer or said polymer is an oligomer or a polymer polymerized from an ethylenically unsaturated monomer containing at least one polar functional group.

5. (Original) The composition of Claim 4, wherein said at least one polar functional group is a hydroxyl, carboxyl, cyano, amino, sulfonate group or a combination thereof.

6. (Withdrawn)

7. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, wherein said polar monomer is a polar vinyl monomer.

8-11. (Withdrawn)

12. (Original) The composition of Claim 1, wherein said biodegradable polymer contains from 1 to 20 weight percent grafted polar monomer, oligomer or polymer or combination thereof.

13. (Withdrawn)

14. (Currently amended) The composition of Claim 1, wherein ~~said biodegradable polymer is selected from poly(hydroxy alkanoates), poly(alkylene succinates), polycaprolactones or combinations thereof, and~~ said polar monomer, oligomer, or polymer is selected from 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate, or polyethylene glycol methacrylate, and said water-soluble polymer is selected from polyethylene oxide, polyvinyl alcohol, sulfonated polyester, hydroxypropyl cellulose, polyacrylamide or polyacrylic acid.

15. (Original) A homogeneous water-dispersible polymer blend comprising from 1% to 35% by weight of a grafted biodegradable polymer and from 65% to 99% by weight of a water-soluble polymer or a grafted water-soluble polymer.

16. (Currently amended) A homogeneous water-disintegratable polymer blend comprising from 35% to 45% by weight of a grafted biodegradable polymer selected from poly(hydroxy alkanoates), poly(alkylene succinates), polycaprolactones or combinations thereof that are hydrolytically degradable and from 55% to 65% by weight of a water soluble polymer or a grafted water-soluble polymer.

17. (Currently amended) A homogeneous water-weakenable polymer blend comprising from 45% to 55% by weight of a grafted biodegradable polymer selected from poly(hydroxy alkanoates), poly(alkylene succinates), polycaprolactones or combinations thereof

that are hydrolytically degradable and from 45% to 55% by weight of a water soluble polymer or a grafted water-soluble polymer.

18. (Original) A film comprising the composition of Claim 1.

19. (Original) A fiber comprising the composition of Claim 1.

20. (Original) An article comprising the composition of Claim 1.

21-31. (Withdrawn)

32. (Previously amended) Water-sensitive polymer blends of a modified, biodegradable polymer selected from poly(hydroxy alkanoates), poly(alkylene succinates), polycaprolactones or combinations thereof that are hydrolytically degradable and a modified water-soluble polymer.

33. (Currently amended) Water-sensitive polymer blends of modified poly(ethylene) oxide and modified poly(hydroxy alkanoates), modified poly(alkylene succinates), modified polycaprolactones or combinations thereof that are hydrolytically degradable.
